

him, to the amusement of those present—author unknown, but suspected.

Dr. Tape gave an interesting talk on his early days of practice on the Pacific Coast in the 80's.

The following officers were elected for 1923: P. C. Means, president; G. R. Luton, vice-president; O. C. Jones, first vice-president at large; Robert W. Brown, second vice-president at large; A. C. Soper Jr., re-elected secretary-treasurer.

At the meeting held on January 22, there were ten members present and the following guests: Interns Koetter and Cryst and Dr. Holcombe of Portland, Ore.; G. C. Wagner of Tacoma, and Dr. Mullitt.

G. C. Wagner gave a very able discourse on the results of his seven years experience with the ultra violet rays, and its apparent value in many types of disease abnormalities. Discussion by Ullmann, Hotchkiss, Blatherwidk, Means, Mellinger, and Cunnane.

Votes on delegate and alternate for the State convention resulted in the election of Franklin R. Nuzum as delegate, and George R. Luton as alternate.

SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County Plans Three-Year Tax for New Hospital—The present Sonoma County Hospital at Santa Rosa has been receiving considerable undesirable publicity. The result is an aroused public sentiment to improve hospital conditions for the poor. There are, as usual, two principal elements in this discussion; one group wants to build a new county hospital and operate it under the political county government; the other group wants to subsidize private hospitals by paying them a per diem for patients who are the proper charge of the county.

TULARE COUNTY

Tulare County Health Center Elects Officers—John C. Payne, has been elected chairman of the Tulare County Health Center; E. R. Zumwalt, physician in charge of the children's department; Edgar T. Smith, in charge of the dental department; Ray Rosson, the medical department; W. C. Zeller, eye, ear, nose and throat department, and I. H. Betts, surgical department.

Many affections which art has to strive against might be easily shown to be vital to the well-being of society. Hydrocephalus, tabes mesenterica, and other similar maladies, are natural agencies which cut off the children of races that are sinking below the decent minimum which nature has established as the condition of viability, before they reach the age of reproduction. They are really not so much diseases, as manifestations of congenital incapacity for life; the race would be ruined if art could ever learn always to preserve the individuals subject to them. We must do the best we can for them, but we ought also to know what these "diseases" mean.—Holmes' Medical Essays.

One practical hint may not be out of place here. It seems to be sometimes forgotten, by those who must know the fact, that the tongue is very different, anatomically and physiologically, from the stomach. Its condition does not in the least imply a similar one of the stomach, which is a very different structure, covered with a different kind of epithelium, and furnished with entirely different secretions. A silversmith will, for a dollar, make a small *hoo*, of solid silver, which will last for centuries, and will give a patient more comfort, used for the removal of the accumulated epithelium and fungous growths which constitute the "fur," than many a prescription with a splitfooted R before it, addressed to the parts out of reach.—Holmes' Medical Essays.

BOOK REVIEWS

Text-Book on Minor Surgery. By John C. Vaughn and Athel C. Burnham, M.D. 627 pages, illustrated with 459 engravings; \$7.75. Philadelphia and New York: Lea and Febiger. 1922.

A very good book on the better methods in minor surgery, written in a clear impressive way and well illustrated. It should be useful to those interested particularly in minor surgery and local anesthesia, such as the industrial surgeon. L. C. G.

Animal Parasites and Human Disease. By Asa C. Chandler, M.S., Ph.D., Instructor in Biology, Rice Institute, Houston, Texas. Second edition, revised. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 1922. Price, \$4.50.

This is what it purports to be, a text for public health officers, teachers of hygiene, college students, and laymen. The book deals in an interesting manner with the main biological facts and the practical aspects of human parasitization by protozoa, "worms," and arthropods. Compiled very conservatively from the best authorities, it is more accurate than the average text, and reaches a remarkably even standard of excellence in all of its divisions. The modernization of the pages concerning Flagellates is most commendable. However, the far better drawings of chilomastix by Swezy could be substituted to advantage for those by Wenyon. Likewise, it is to be hoped that the atrocious old drawings of giardia, active and cyst, will finally cease to be copied. Wenyon, Swezy, Simon, and others have published replicas of the parasite, which really resemble it as encountered in the routine examination of the stool. The subject of Amebic Dysentery is well presented, but the author has too much faith in the rapid cure of long-standing cases by a few doses of emetin. Extensive thickening and scarring of the colon is beyond repair by emetin, and means permanent impairment of function. In the section on "Worms" the need of a good plate, preferably in color, and drawn to scale, is evident. It should show the different ova in detail, not so much for the purpose of differentiating the varieties from one another, but to differentiate them from confusing vegetable residues in stools. The quality of the book should give it a commanding position in a field in which there is too little competition. M. C. C.

Gonorrhea and Impotency. Modern treatment. By Edwin W. Hirsch, S.B., M.D. 172 pages. Illustrated. Chicago: The Solar Press. 1922.

This book contains nothing new. There are a few hints that may be useful to an office nurse taking care of catheters, sounds, and other instruments, some absurdities, a great many naive statements and descriptions, as well as an excessive number of misprints and grammatical errors.

The author, repeating what others have said many times before him, expresses some thoughts about venereal prophylaxis, and also seems to have acquired good ideas on what he calls the "urethroscopic craze," but we are sure that his enthusiasm in regard to the therapeutic efficiency of the quartz lamp, ultra violet rays and diathermy will sooner or later cool down.

The numerous illustrations are more apt to impress the layman than the medical man. V. G. V.

Principles and Practice of X-ray Technic for Diagnosis. By John A. Metzger, M.D. 144 pages. Illustrated. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Co. 1922. Price, \$2.75.

When a new book on X-ray technic appears, one